
From: eyerisepress@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 5:40 PM
To: AppropriationTestimony
Subject: The African American Affairs Commission

It is my understanding the Governor has recommended the consolidation of the Legislative Commissions into one Commission. The African American Affairs Commission has been pivotal and has sponsored several initiatives that have been critical especially in light of the state's problematic educational achievement gap. As President of the Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Programs (CAEOP), an organization dedicated to assisting, guiding and promoting postsecondary educational opportunities for first-generation, low-income youth and populations traditionally under-represented in higher education, we have experienced the great work The Commission for African American Affairs has accomplished in many communities across the state. The Commission for African American Affairs has been responsible for introducing the state to national initiatives such as College Goal Sunday, KnowHow2Go (to College) CT and has connected state educational opportunities programs to national funding resources. There is concern that merging the commissions will result in a large negative impact on the welfare of African American families in the state. Please support The Commission for African American Affairs.

Carl Dean
President Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Programs